

Remarks

With regard to the obviousness rejections, Applicant has amended the claims to clarify the relationship between (i) the reflective light collecting device that collects light from one or more light emitting semiconductor chips and presents that light as an unfocused beam to a focusing lens, (ii) a focusing lens that focuses the light into a focused light beam, and (iii) a light transport device that transports the focused light to a curing location. None of the prior art suggest the claimed sequential combination of a light collecting device, a focusing lens, and a light transport device. Consequently the assembled prior art references do not constitute a prima facie obviousness case.

Further, if Kovac (Figure 4) were provided with a parabolic reflector interceding between the LEDs and the focusing lens (70), the combination would be inoperable and would destroy the function of the Kovac light. In Kovac, the focusing lens is very large so that it both collects light from the LEDs and focuses that light. If an attempt were made to interpose a light collection device between the LED's and Kovac's focusing lens, then Kovac's focusing lens would not be able to perform its light collection function. Further, the focusing lens would be receiving from the light collection device a much more narrow beam of light, and the wide focusing lens of Kovac Figure 4 would not be appropriate to focus a narrow beam of light. In hindsight, Kovac could be redesigned to include a light collection device and to use a more appropriate focusing lens, but such hindsight reconstruction is not permitted by the patent laws.

Further, there is no suggestion in the prior art to place a reflective light collection device into the Kovac light.

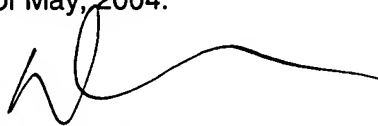
In view of these reasons, withdrawal of the obviousness rejections is requested.

Claim 16 has been amended to address the 35 USC 112 rejection.

A terminal disclaimer and fee are provided to overcome the double patenting rejection.

Favorable reconsideration of the patent application is requested..

Respectfully submitted this ²⁶ day of May, 2004.



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